

150 THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES

A tendency to center on building up a political machine to secure reelection rather than on serving the best interests of the people and a possibility of perpetuating a dictatorship, are avoided by prohibiting reelection. Also, along with other high officials, the President can be impeached.

The President is allowed an official residence, Malacanan Palace, and an annual salary of 30,000 pesos (\$15,000). This is less than the compensation formerly received by the Governor-General and the compensation that the United States High Commissioner will receive.

Vast powers are granted the President of the Commonwealth. An integrated executive organization is controlled by him. Also, he exercises general supervision of local governments. The President appoints, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments of the National Assembly, the heads of the executive departments and bureaus, the Auditor-General, ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, the members of the Supreme Court and judges of inferior courts, and ranking officers of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. He maintains close relations with the National Assembly through messages, through the submission of a budget, and through the exercise of the veto power, which extends not only to bills in their entirety but to any particular item or items of an appropriation bill or a revenue or tariff bill. Authority granted by the Constitution makes the President the commander-in-chief of all armed forces of the Philippines, and gives him the right to suspend the privilege of the writ of

habeas corpus
or place the Philippines or any part thereof
under martial
law. The President can grant reprieves,
commutations of sentences, and pardons, and with the consent of the
National Assembly, amnesty. He controls foreign affairs
and makes
treaties within the limits set by the Philippine
Commonwealth
and Independence Law. When duly authorized
by the National
Assembly, the President can fix tariff
rates, import or